

**CLAIMS****WE CLAIM:**

1. A method, comprising:

5 associating a delay with a request to transmit information; and

transmitting a signal identifying a time at which information is permitted to be  
transmitted based on the delay.

2. A method for controlling a flow of information, comprising:

10 receiving a signal requesting to transmit information;

associating a delay with the request to transmit information;

determining a time at which the information is permitted to be transmitted based on  
the delay; and

transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is permitted to be

15 transmitted.

3. A method, as set forth in claim 2, further comprising:

transmitting a synchronizing signal, and wherein transmitting a signal identifying the

time at which information is permitted to be transmitted further comprises

20 transmitting a signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing  
signal at which information is permitted to be transmitted.

4. A method, as set forth in claim 3, wherein:

transmitting the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at which information is permitted to be transmitted further comprises transmitting over a shared channel the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at which information is permitted to be transmitted.

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5. A method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is permitted to be transmitted further comprises transmitting a signal identifying a frame in which information is permitted to be transmitted.

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6. A method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein associating a delay with the request to transmit information further comprises determining a propagation delay.
7. A method, as set forth in claim 2, wherein associating a delay with the request to transmit information further comprises determining a processing delay.

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8. A method, as set forth in claim 2, further comprising:  
receiving the information at a first preselected time;  
comparing the first preselected time with the identified time to determine the delay  
associated with the request to transmit information.

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9. A method for controlling a flow of information from a user to a base station,  
comprising:  
receiving a signal from the user requesting to transmit information;

associating a delay with the user;  
determining a time at which the user is to transmit the information to the base station,  
wherein the determined time is a function of the delay; and  
transmitting a signal to the user identifying the time at which information is permitted  
5 to be transmitted.

10. A method, as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:  
transmitting a synchronizing signal to the user, and wherein transmitting a signal  
identifying the time at which information is to be transmitted further  
10 comprises transmitting a signal identifying the time as a function of the  
synchronizing signal at which information is permitted to be transmitted.

11. A method, as set forth in claim 10, wherein:  
transmitting the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at  
15 which information is to be transmitted further comprises transmitting over a  
shared channel the signal identifying the time as a function of the  
synchronizing signal at which information is to be transmitted.

12. A method, as set forth in claim 10, further comprising a plurality of users, and  
20 wherein:  
transmitting the synchronizing signal further comprises transmitting the synchronizing  
signal over a shared channel to each of the plurality of users; and  
transmitting the signal identifying the time as a function of the synchronizing signal at  
which information is to be transmitted further comprises transmitting over the

shared channel to the plurality of users a signal identifying a unique time, as a function of the synchronizing signal, at which information is to be transmitted.

13. A method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein transmitting a signal identifying the  
5 time at which information is to be transmitted further comprises transmitting a signal identifying a frame in which information is to be transmitted.

14. A method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein associating a delay with the user further  
comprises determining a propagation delay associated with signals delivered by  
10 the user.

15. A method, as set forth in claim 9, wherein associating a delay with the user further  
comprises determining a processing delay associated with signals delivered by the  
user.

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16. An apparatus, comprising:

means for receiving a signal requesting to transmit information;  
means for associating a delay with the request to transmit information;  
means for determining a time at which the information is permitted to be transmitted  
20 based on the delay; and

means for transmitting a signal identifying the time at which information is permitted  
to be transmitted.

17. A method for controlling the flow of information between a user and a base

station, comprising:

transmitting a signal from the user requesting permission from the base station to  
transmit information;

5 associating a delay with the user;

determining a time at which the user is to transmit the information to the base station,  
wherein the determined time is a function of the delay; and

transmitting a signal to the user identifying the time at which information is permitted  
to be transmitted; and

10 transmitting the information from the user to the base station at the identified time.

18. A method, as set forth in claim 17, further comprising:

receiving the information from the user at a first preselected time;

comparing the first preselected time with the identified time to determine the delay  
15 associated with the user.

19. A method for controlling the flow of information between a user and a base

station, comprising:

receiving a synchronizing signal from the base station;

20 transmitting a signal from the user requesting permission from the base station to  
transmit information;

receiving a signal from the base station identifying a time relative to the  
synchronizing signal at which information is to be transmitted; and  
transmitting the information from the user to the base station at the identified time.

20. A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein:

receiving a signal from the base station identifying the time at which information is to  
be transmitted further comprises receiving a signal from the base station  
5 identifying a substantially unique time at which information is to be  
transmitted.

21. A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein:

receiving a signal from the base station identifying the time at which information is to  
10 be transmitted further comprises receiving a signal from the base station  
identifying a substantially unique frame associated with the synchronizing  
signal during which information is to be transmitted.

22. A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein:

15 receiving a synchronizing signal from the base station further comprises receiving a  
synchronizing signal from the base station over a shared channel.